

## TENNESSEE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



The Tennessee Youth Leadership Forum, (YLF), is a four-day summer session that will take place at Vanderbilt University July 5-8, 2010.

- Approximately 20 high school 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders with disabilities from across the state of Tennessee will be selected to attend.
- There is no charge to selected student delegates (all expenses paid, including reimbursement for travel to and from the Forum).
- Students, known as YLF Delegates, will participate in an educational four-day training program that includes: presentations by local and national speakers in the field of disability, small and large group discussions on developing leadership skills and other disability-related topics, a tour of the State capitol, a talent show and a photography workshop.

### APPLICATION FORM

**DEADLINE FOR MAILED, FAXED or E-MAILED APPLICATION: March 1, 2010**

**STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS OF THIS APPLICATION.  
INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

_____			Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>
Student's Last Name	First	Middle Initial		
_____		_____		
Please specify your ethnicity		County of Residence		
_____		_____		
Residence Address	City	State	ZIP (9 digits)	
_____		_____		
Mailing Address, if different than above		City	State	ZIP
_____		_____		
Home Telephone Number		Name of High School		
_____		_____		
Grade Level in March 2009		School Address		
_____		_____		
City	State	ZIP	High School Counselor's Name	School Telephone Number
_____		_____		
Birthdate		Date Graduation Expected		

Please describe your disability. This information will assist in assuring that we include delegates with a diversity of disabilities.

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Please list any elective classes or extracurricular activities you are currently enrolled in:

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### **School and Community Involvement**

Below, please briefly list your involvement with your school and community. This may include any offices held, club memberships, after school activities, or work experiences. List the grade level you were in at the time of participation.

#### **School Activities**

##### **Name of Activity**

##### **Grade Level**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

#### **Community Activities**

##### **Name of Activity**

##### **Grade Level**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

### **Letters of Recommendation**

Please attach **two letters** of recommendation, which describe your demonstrated leadership skills or your leadership potential. **One letter must be from a high school representative, and one must be from a community representative outside of your school.** Please make sure the submitted letters list the name, position/title, organization, and telephone number of the person writing the recommendation.

## **ESSAY**

Your answers to the following questions will be used to assess your readiness to participate in this leadership forum. Please write your responses on separate paper, and attach them to your completed application packet. Even if the student requires the help of a parent or other assistant to complete this section, the responses must be in the student's own words. Please contact our office if the responses to these questions need to be submitted in an alternative format (i.e. audio or video tape.)

- (a) **QUALIFICATIONS-** Explain why you feel you are qualified to be a delegate to this forum, and please tell us why you want to attend.
- (b) **POSITIVE INFLUENCES-** Please tell us about two people who have positively influenced your life, and in what way(s) they have influenced you. (Families, teachers, counselors, friends, public officials or celebrities are appropriate examples.)
- (c) **EXPERIENCES AS A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY-** Describe two important experiences you have had as a young person with a disability. (Please be specific about your examples as they relate to your disability).
- (d) **FUTURE PLANS-** Describe any of your plans following your high school graduation.

Please use the checklist below, to make certain your application packet is complete. All questions must be answered, and requested letters and information provided.

### **Required Items**

- ❖ Application form (3 pages)
- ❖ Two letters of recommendation
- ❖ Essay (response to four topics)

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Signature of Student

Date

**Thank you for completing this application.**  
Please mail or e-mail it to the address below.

Ned Andrew Solomon, Director YLF  
Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Parkway Towers, Suite 130  
404 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243-0228

Voice: 615-532-6556/TDD: 615-741-4562  
E-mail: ned.solomon@tn.gov